GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:847
ANSWERED ON:22.10.2008
CIVIL NUCLEAR COOPERATION WITH JAPAN
Adhalrao Patil Shri Shivaji

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) Whether Japan has ruled out any negotiations for a civil nuclear cooperation/agreement with India;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS(SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE)

(a) to (c) Japan was part of the consensus at the IAEA Board of Governors meeting that approved the India-specific Safeguards Agreement in Vienna in August 2008. Japan also supported the Nuclear Suppliers Group (NSG)'s decision to adjust NSG guidelines to enable full civil nuclear cooperation with India.

At the 3rd India-Japan Ministerial-level Energy Dialogue held in Tokyo on 17 September 2008 between Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission and the Japanese Minister for Economy, Trade and Industry, Mr. Toshihiro Nikai, both Ministers signed a Joint Statement which contains the following paragraph: "The two Ministers noted that the Nuclear Suppliers Group adopted by consensus the Statement on Civil Nuclear Cooperation with India. They confirmed that they will exchange views and information on their respective nuclear energy policy".